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Andrew Jackson to Rachel Donelson Jackson, March 19, 1824, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO MRS. JACKSON.

Washington, March 19, 1824.

My Dear wife, your kind letter of the 1st instant is before me; I feel that gratitude to our great Creator which is due, for the health you enjoy: May he continue that blessing to you, and all my family, and bless us with a happy meeting once more. Our climate here is very variable, and we have experienced a serious of cloudy, rainy, and disagreable days, that have been injurious to my health. I have had a small attack of pain in my side and cough, but a little blood, and one dose of salts has relieved me. The weather is now good and my health fast improving.

The kind attention of the family in which we live, was very great; it was that of friendship, and true christian feeling; I feel gratefull to them. I should not have named this sudden and short attack, but I was fearfull it might reach you through the papers much magnified, which might create great anxiety of mind, and make you unhappy. I am happy you have recd Major Eatons letter, and seen that of Genl call; as they must have afforded both amusement and pleasure. I am happy to hear that Major Lewis and the young Ladies were with you at the date of your letter, They will [enliven] your spirits which is very conducive to health. when you see them present me to them respectfully—present my thanks to Miss Milbury for her staying with [you], with my best respects.

I cannot as yet say to you the rout I will certainly take, when I leave this for home; but, as at present, I think, the steam boat from wheeling or pittsburgh will be the most expeditious

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and easy, my present impression is, that I Shall take that rout, and pass from Louisville [to] overtons home. my rout Shall be pointed out to you, when I can say the time I will be able to leave here.

Major Eaton is daily expecting your answer, I hope you have written him; altho he attends the house daily, he is like many of the members complaining of a bad cold. he together with Genl Call joins in good wishes to you—our good family Join in respects to you, and our old friend Judge Tucker1 has injoined it upon me to present you with his and Mrs Wilsons kind respects. Present me kindly to all our friends and neighbours and believe me to be your affectionate Husband

1 Probably George Tucker, of Virginia, later distinguished as a professor of law in the University of Virginia.

Present me affectionately to the Andrews.